

**WASHINGTON, D.C.** – Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (CA-47), Chair of the House Armed Services Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional Threats and Capabilities, delivered the following opening statement during today's subcommittee hearing on the strengths and weaknesses of the Department of Defense's Science and Technology policies:

"Good Afternoon. I would like to welcome you all and thank you for joining us today to receive testimony on the Department of Defense's Sciences and Technology (S&T) policies and FY11 budget request for S&T programs within the Office of the Secretary of Defense. The Department's S&T program supports defense requirements for superior future war fighting capabilities by developing needed technology enhancements, as well as rapidly transitioning critical technologies to our warfighters, interagency and international partners, and the industrial base.

"Over the last couple of years, Secretary Gates has challenged the old business and operational paradigm of the Department of Defense developed during the Cold War. In a strategic environment in which the U.S. will continue to prosecute persistent hybrid threats while simultaneously dealing with larger near-peer competitors as well as the myriad of unconventional and irregular threats, DoD's S&T enterprise must be responsive and robust enough to hedge against uncertainty.

"The S&T investments should be flexible and balanced to address emerging challenges such as cyber warfare, force protection, and energy, as well as breakthroughs in long-established areas like medical technology, platform survivability and sustainability, ISR, and environmental remediation. Not only must these investments maintain our technological superiority, but it must find innovative ways to rapidly field these technologies at affordable prices.

"The DoD laboratory system and scientific workforce has traditionally kept the U.S. at the forefront of technological advances. However, over the last 5 years, experts have argued that the United States' dominance in science and technology has begun to erode. DoD senior officials have testified that the Department's science and engineering workforce has experienced an attrition of more than 13,000 personnel over the last 10 years, while the demands for that same workforce are projected to increase by over 10% in the next five years.

"I believe a solid Science and Technology base is not only a prerequisite for maintaining a

strong military, but it is an absolute necessity for this country's national security. Maintaining that superiority means more than simply funding the right research - it means investing in the laboratory infrastructure and technical workforce that provides the foundation for all of those advances.

"Through this hearing, I hope to gain a better understanding of what our witnesses see as our top Science and Technology priorities, and hear your views about how this subcommittee can meet the challenges of sustaining a top-of-the-line Science and Technology Department for DoD. Today, we have five witnesses before us who represent key leaders in the Department of Defense who are responsible for discovering, developing, engineering, and fielding innovative technologies that give our warfighter's the capability edge.

"We have the Honorable Zachary Lemnios, who is the Director of Defense Research and Engineering for the Department of Defense; Dr. Thomas Killion, Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Technology; Rear Admiral Nevin Carr, Jr, Chief of Naval Research and Director of Test and Evaluation and Technology Requirements; Dr. Stephen Walker, Deputy assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Science, Technology and Engineering; and Dr. Regina Dugan, Director of Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA).

"Once again I would like to thank all of our witnesses for being here today and I look forward to hearing your testimonies. I will now yield to the Ranking Member from Florida, Mr. Miller, for his opening statement. Thank you."

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